

## **Nearly 5,000 Black and White Clad Walkers Stage Dramatic Escape from Darkness in Mongkok**

Under the twilight of December 2, Orbis attracted nearly 5,000 walkers to help the needlessly blind to escape the prison of darkness in a 20km annual night walkathon. With 'Dress in black and white stripes to escape the darkness!' as its theme, the "Orbis·Everbright Moonwalkers 2017" was a great success in raising over HK\$6,100,000 to fight against avoidable blindness.

This year's 20kms Moonwalkers' route stretched all the way from Mong Kok's Fa Hui Park, taking in the sights at Kowloon City, Choi Hung and Pak Sha Wan before eventually concluding with a breathtaking sunrise at Sai Kung Pier. At the event's kick off ceremony, many walkers drew glorious "Love Fire" light paintings symbolizing their unending compassion for the visually impaired in the night skies over Mong Kok.

From their very first step, all who took part were delighted to enjoy a treasure trove of fun and memorable moments as they stepped up in the battle against preventable blindness. The several challenges participants faced along the way included a 10-minute blindfold experience and various addictive games on the event's cutting-edge mobile app. This year's app was so fiendishly clever, all participants were able to select the patients they would most like to rescue for surgery aboard the Orbis Flying Eye Hospital. Intrepid walkers who successfully conquered every task along the route were later rewarded with a certificate celebrating the shining fire of their hope.

2017 also saw Orbis establish an exclusive "Super Moonwalkers" group whose elite members were challenged to finish the entire 20kms walk within three hours! While the timeframe proved very daunting, most Super Moonwalkers finished the course well within their allotted deadline!

Said Mary Lau, Executive Director of Orbis Hong Kong: "We are honored to have had around 5,000 passionate supporters turn out to walk side by side on our 12th annual Moonwalkers. My heartfelt appreciation to all participants and sponsors for so unselfishly contributing to the HK\$6,100,000 that enabling Orbis to upgrade the skills of local medical professionals in unimaginably impoverished countries and improve blindness prevention projects in villages and rural areas across the developing world. I would like to express my extra-special thanks to title sponsor, China Everbright Limited, plus the various other key event and media sponsors, supporting organizations and volunteers who are standing with us through the night."

Orbis would like to extend its profound gratitude to the following organizations, without whose support the 12th annual Moonwalkers could never have been nearly so successful: Title Sponsor, China Everbright Limited. Other sponsors include: Campbells Soup Asia Limited, Sogo Hong Kong Co., Ltd, Coca-Cola China Limited, CityFit, Daniel & Co, Elite Partners CPA Limited, ESD Life, Fessta Photo Booth, FOON TAI TRADING COMPANY LTD, Green Tomato, Hong Kong Movie, Hotmob Limited, Integrated Market Services Asia Limited, Jebsen Group, Joy City Property Limited, Men's uno, Metro Alliance Ltd., Metro Broadcast, Regal Printing Limited, SCA Tissue Hong Kong Limited, Timable, ,Weekend Weekly, YoHo eBiz Limited and HKGOLDEN.com. As always, Orbis would also like to underline its appreciation of the many other supporting organizations and volunteers who donated time, goods or money.

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